

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12

NEA-10 SAM-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /114 W
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R 081201Z MAR 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8590

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1737

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO CH

SUBJECT: PRC INTEREST IN ILO

1. MISSION REALIZES THAT THERE HAS BEEN GREAT DEAL OF SPECULATION REGARDING WHETHER OR NOT PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC) INTENDS TAKE ITS SEAT IN ILO, NOW OR EVER. DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD HAS BEEN STRONG ADVOCATE OF PRC PRESENCE IN ILO, AND HAS NOT MISSED ANY OPPORTUNITY TO EITHER SO ADVISE PRC, OR GENERALLY MAKE ISSUE OF PRC NON-PRESENCE IN ILO SOMETHING TO BE LAMENTED.

2. WHEN MATTER UNOFFICIALLY RAISED HERE WITH PRC REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO MARCH 4, USUAL ANSWER WAS SIMPLY TO SAY THAT CHINA WAS RESEARCHING PROBLEM AND UNDECIDED OVER ISSUE. ON MARCH 4, HOWEVER, AT SOCIAL FUNCTION, CONSUL GENERAL AND AMBASSADOR BOTH INDICATED TO MISOFF THAT PRC IS ABOUT TO TAKE SOME ACTION WITH REGARD TO ILO SEAT. NEITHER AMBASSADOR NOR CONSUL GENERAL REFERRED TO STANDARD
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"CONDUCTING RESEARCH" PHRASE, BUT INSTEAD STATED THEY

HAD BOTH SPOKEN WITH DIRGEN BLANCHARD ON MARCH 4 REGARDING THIS VERY TOPIC, AND A DECISION WAS FORTH-COMING.

3. ON MARCH 6, DURING CONFERENCE OF AMBS. SILBERMAN AND DALE, HOROWITZ, LABATT, BLANCHARD ET AL, BLANCHARD SUGGESTED PRC MAY BE WEIGHING POSSIBILITY OF US WITHDRAWAL AND PRC JOINING ILO TO COUNTERBALANCE USSR.

4. COMMENT: WE IN NO WAY WISH INFER THAT PRC WILL RESPOND POSITIVELY TO ILO DIRGEN BLANCHARD'S CONTINUED INVITATION FOR PRC TO ASSUME ITS SEAT IN ILO, BUT WE DETECT A SUBTLE CHANGE IN MANNER IN WHICH PRC REPRESENTATIVES HERE ARE DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE, AND WISH TO BRING THIS TO ATTENTION OF DEPARTMENT. DALE

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